

The Romulus News

APRIL 8, 2005 – APRIL 21, 2005

"the little paper"

VOLUME 18 NUMBER 18

Timely Tidbits ...

Used Book Sale

Bargain-hunting readers won't want to miss the popular Spring Used Book Sale, an annual fundraiser sponsored by the Friends of the Romulus Public Library.

The four-day event will feature adult and children's hardbacks and paperbacks in a wide assortment of genres, as well as music and movies on various media.

The book sale will be held at the Library (11121 South Wayne Road, south of Goddard) Monday–Wednesday, April 18–20, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., and will conclude on "Bag Day" – Saturday, April 23, from noon to 5 p.m. – when shoppers will be able to fill a sack for just \$1.50.

Be sure to stop by and stock up on an entire summer's worth of reading for less than the cost of a new paperback!

CUMC Rummage Sale

Community United Methodist Church – located at 11160 Olive (corner of Bibbins) – will host its annual Giant Rummage Sale May 12–14. Sale hours will be from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Thursday and Friday, and from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday.

For further information, call Kathy at the church: 734-941-0736.

Citywide Rummage Sale Permits Available

Are you planning to take part in Romulus's enormously popular Citywide Rummage Sale? Free permits for the annual event – set for Thursday, May 19, through Sunday, May 22 – are now available at the Romulus Recreation Department, located at 36515 Bibbins in downtown Romulus. (Note: If two or more of the sale dates are rained out, the event will be rescheduled for June 2–5.)

Although permits will be available until the event begins, residents must register by 6 p.m. on Tuesday, April 26, to be included in flyers and newspaper ads promoting sale locations.

For more information, please call 734-942-6852. □

Council Gives Six-year Tax Abatement to Aztec

By Kristi Stephens

Aztec Manufacturing Corporation – a tier-one automotive supplier that has operated in Romulus since 1988 – was granted a six-year tax abatement by the Romulus City Council on April 4.

The company, which is making a \$3.2-million investment in new machinery and equipment, requested a 12-year industrial facilities exemption certificate, but did not score high enough on the City's standardized assessor's review to qualify for the longer abatement.

Aztec chairman/CEO Frank Lopez attended both the council meeting and the public hearing that preceded it, making a short presentation about his company's goals and answering elected officials' questions.

"I came before you to ask for a tax abatement based on the fact that we had to change our business plan," said Lopez, who explained that Aztec is moving toward a more high-tech operation involving flexible machining and robotics. "It's a higher-skilled type of labor rather than the labor-intensive practices that we used before. And that means that it's a tremendous capital expenditure, and I needed some relief on that."

According to Lopez, Aztec's facility upgrade will allow the company to retain the 89 jobs that currently exist at the Romulus plant, as well as add another half-dozen in the next couple of years.

Lopez promised to remain a "good community citizen" by continuing to support various local programs. He also expressed a commitment to finding ways to improve employment in Romulus. As a member of Governor Jennifer Granholm's recently established Council for Labor and Economic Growth, he said he will be trying "to see how we can give grants to communities where they need to do retraining and retaining of people who are losing their jobs."

Lopez further noted, "I'll be working very diligently ... with [Romulus Community Schools curriculum director] Tom Dolan and Romulus High School because they're very involved in training their students for success in the new economy, and providing them with the new skills that are needed."

Following Council's unanimous approval of the six-year tax abatement, Chairman Randy Gear told Lopez, "We truly feel that you're a good neighbor. You've done very well by employing people from our city, and you have a

diverse population of people working there."

* * *

Other news from the April 4 council meeting ...

Council Protests End of Detroit Tigers Games on Network TV

At the urging of Councilman Bill Wadsworth, City Council unanimously approved a resolution supporting U.S. Congressman John D. Dingell's efforts to return Detroit Tigers baseball to network television.

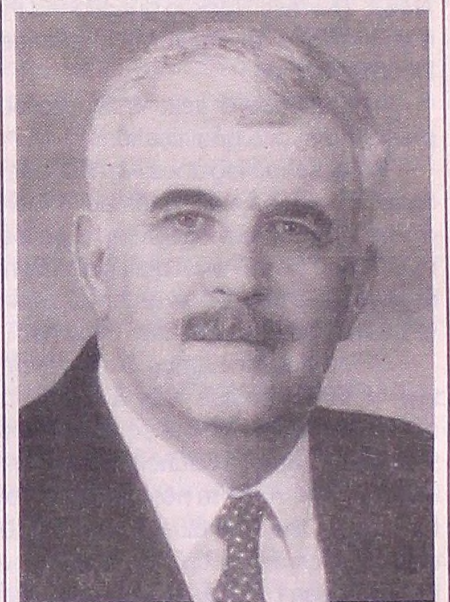
In recent years, WKBD Channel 50, a Viacom-owned UPN affiliate, aired about two dozen Tigers games annually. However, UPN and the Detroit Tigers were apparently unable to reach an agreement for the 2005 season, leaving local residents with the sole option of watching games on cable TV's Fox Sports Network.

"While I am sure there are two sides to the story with regard to the Tigers and those negotiations, I am concerned for the baseball fans of Southeast Michigan," Dingell told Viacom executives in a recent letter. "Their taxes helped fund construction of Comerica Park, but now they will have to pay for tickets or cable service if they want to watch Tigers baseball."

"... This matter has given me pause to consider how Viacom, as a steward of the public airwaves, is demonstrating its commitment to air programming that is responsive to the needs and interests of Southeast Michigan," added Dingell. "... I look forward to understanding the steps Viacom takes to ensure a strong Detroit community presence both on and off the air. The Tigers have taken dramatic steps to upgrade their squad and put a competitive team into Comerica Park this season. They have shown their commitment to metro Detroit. I wish to know how Viacom is stepping up to the plate and showing a similar devotion to Detroit."

Councilman Wadsworth, who appeared to place most of the blame at the Tigers' door, expressed outrage that people with small or fixed incomes will now be unable to see a single Tigers broadcast.

"For the first time in 53 years in southeastern Michigan, you cannot watch a Detroit Tigers baseball game on free television," he stated. "Some of you may think [that my concern] is stupid, but it's not. A lot of our residents in this town can't afford cable TV, and a lot



Councilman Bill Wadsworth

of them are retired older folks who have looked forward for many years to watching Tigers baseball."

Recalling his childhood in the 1950s, when teachers would often bring televisions into the classroom on Opening Day so that the youngsters could enjoy one of America's great traditions, he added, "It's really a shame that they've taken this [simple pleasure] away from the common man."

Council's resolution will be forwarded to Congressman Dingell, the Detroit Tigers, and various elected officials.

Study Session Scheduled

Council scheduled a study session to consider the reconstruction of Goddard Road between Five Points and Romaine. The meeting will be held in the council chambers at City Hall (11111 South Wayne Road, south of Goddard) on Monday, April 11, at 5:30 p.m.

Kersey To Attend Seminars

Council also approved Treasurer Pamela Morrison-Kersey's request to attend two professional conclaves in the upcoming months.

Kersey – who said that she was asking permission to participate in the programs "to keep abreast of current local and national legislation for the treasurer's office" – assured Council that funds for the conferences were already included in her department's budget.

Treasurer Kersey will attend the Michigan Municipal Treasurers Institute at Central Michigan University (Mt. Pleasant) from May 4–6, and the annual National Treasurers Conference in Chicago from July 31–August 3. □

Letter to the Editor

Reader Questions Mayor's Qualifications

To the Editor:

In a letter which appeared in the March 25, 2005 issue of *The Romulus News*, Theresa Huckno questioned the qualifications of mayoral challenger Debbie Romak.

In response, I ask: What are our present mayor's qualifications?

What schooling does Alan Lambert have? Show us the diplomas. Where did he work before becoming a policeman? I don't know what police academy he graduated from; show us that diploma, too. What businesses has he owned?

I know that Mr. Lambert was a member of the Romulus City Council for more than six years, but so what? Mrs. Romak has been a councilwoman for a decade now. And I'm not impressed by his time on the Romulus Board of Education, since, in my opinion, the school board doesn't really represent all citizens. (It's true that we all have to pay school taxes, but not all of us have children in school.)

In short, I think that the current mayor should be held to the same standards that his challengers are.

One last question: Why did Mr. Lambert never receive a single promotion during his 14 years with the Romulus Police Department?

Sincerely,
Dolores A. Witzgall
Romulus

* * *

Editor's note: All letters to the editor MUST contain the writer's signature and a telephone number where he/she can be reached in order to verify the letter's authenticity. Names will be withheld by request only in exceptional cases where, in our opinion, there is a legitimate reason to do so. All letters requesting anonymity will be treated confidentially, regardless of whether or not they are published in the paper.

The Romulus News reserves the right to edit all letters for clarity and, if necessary, brevity.

Opinions expressed in the "Letters to the Editor" column are not necessarily shared by the staff of "the little paper."

For further information about the paper's policies, please contact Kristi Stephens, editor, at 734-941-1907. □

The Romulus News

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Guest Commentary

A Change in Society's Gender Roles

By Jeremy Thomason, Romulus High School student

Society establishes gender roles for us, and by the 1960s we had developed a comfortable society – two cars, two kids, TV, dishwashers, fast food, etc. But women, especially educated women, began to realize that life was more than buying hamburgers and driving kids to their after-school activities while men went to work for an income. Women resented being forced into unrewarding homemaker roles and wanted to have their freedom, forcing them to create the Women's Movement. They fought for their equality, and a second income was more and more needed.

Between 1960 and 1990, the percentage of married women in the workforce with children under six increased from 23% to 56%. Dual-income families became more and more common. With large numbers of women in the workforce, traditional gender roles have become less functional. One might assume that a role reversal has begun, with fathers start-

ing to take more active roles in child-care and household responsibilities. Today, there are fathers who know all about child-care, household management, and nurturing. They are the fathers who stay at home an average of 50 hours a week with their children while their wives are at work. They drive the children places, cook meals, feed the children, change diapers, dress the children, and participate in the nurturing of their children. The males are demonstrating that they can succeed at the traditional female job of stay-at-home parent.

In the U.S., the biggest ongoing social evolution in the millennium is still the fight for gender equality. Our society has moved a long way from the early '50s and '60s, when mother was the primary caregiver and father was the breadwinner. The family remains the central institution of our society, and primary-caregiving fathers are reshaping the family. This can only show that the Women's Movement in the 1960s had an impact on the gender roles of today. □

Guest Commentary

Lambert: Different Job, Same Duties

By Romulus Mayor Alan R. Lambert

As a Romulus police officer for more than 14 years, my job was to keep the residents of this city safe and protected. It was a job I took seriously and was very honored to hold, especially when it came to the well-being of children in this community.

Now, as the mayor of Romulus, I feel that, although my job title has changed, my responsibilities are still quite similar. Possibly this is the reason why the new recreation center is so important to me, both as a mayor and as a former police officer.

When I was elected more than three years ago, one of my main priorities was to give the residents and, most importantly, the children of this community a place to go to spend time with friends, be active, and have fun – but, at the same time, stay safe. This was a feat that seemed to be impossible, given the current lagging state of the economy, but I am proud to say that, thanks to the use of TIFA funds, this new recreation center will be built at no cost to our residents. Things are already moving forward.

I am pleased to announce that the City has purchased an existing building, located at Wayne and Northline roads, that is currently 40,000 square feet, but will be expanded to 75,000 square feet to hold the new recreation center. We have also purchased the adjoining 11 acres of property to use for outdoor recreational activities.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the residents who attended our public workshop regarding the recreation center, as well as the thousands of residents who took the time to fill out our questionnaire. It is from all of your ideas and thoughts that this recreation center will begin to take shape.

It is evident from both the workshop and the questionnaires that the residents of Romulus are as excited as I am about the possibilities for the new recreation center.

Some of the most popular ideas include a leisure pool for small children and seniors, as well as an Olympic-size pool, a series of basketball courts, a learning and technology center filled with computers for all to utilize, a fitness area complete with cardio- and weight-training equipment, a rock climbing wall, meeting and banquet rooms, a dance studio, and a concession stand with facilities for hot food. And that is all just inside.

For the outside of the facility, residents have proposed ball fields, a nature walk, an ice-skating rink during the winter months, and a rink for in-line skating during the summer.

We have hired JRV and Associates, a professional company that specializes in the planning and operation of this type of facility, to help determine the best possible combination of activities for our new center.

Friends, this new recreation center is long overdue in our community. It is something that the residents of this city deserve – but, more importantly, it is something that the children of this city need. I cannot begin to tell you about the number people who stop me each day to talk about the new recreation center. People who were just kids when I was a police officer, who now have kids of their own, take the time to tell me how happy they are that their children will have a place to go right here in Romulus.

I have to say that it is funny how some things work out. As a police officer, I worked to keep kids safe; as a mayor, I feel that it is still my job to keep them safe, merely in a different way. □

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Romulus, Michigan



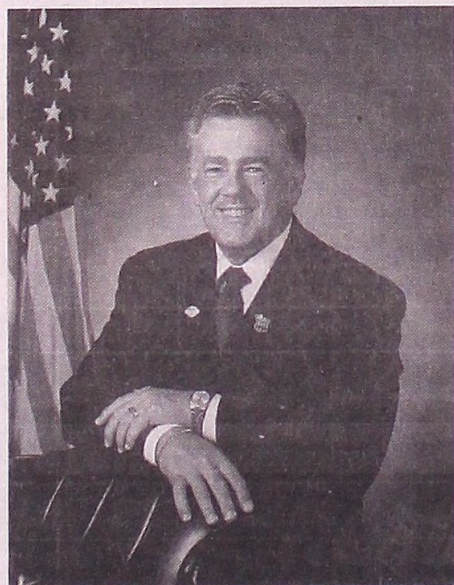
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The Police Blotter

Thanks to Sergeant Bryan Cozzaglio for submitting the following summary of Romulus Police Department activity during the period of March 23–April 3, 2005. (Note: Information is presented in the following format: date, time, type of call, and general location.)

Wednesday, March 23

- 12:03 a.m. – Abandoned Vehicle (block of 9200 Inkster)
- 12:16 a.m. – Operating Under the Influence of Liquor (OUIL) (block of 27400 westbound I-94)
- 1:51 a.m. – Family Trouble (block of 28800 Ecorse)
- 2:36 a.m. – Family Trouble (block of 9200 Middlebelt)
- 2:16 p.m. – Malicious Destruction of Property (MDOP) (block of 6140 Second)
- 3:14 p.m. – Felonious Assault (block of 36900 Wick)
- 4:14 p.m. – MDOP (block of 5910 Esther)
- 9:02 p.m. – Recovered Stolen Vehicle (Recovered UDAA, or Unlawful Driving Away of an Automobile) (block of 6200 Chamberlain)

Thursday, March 24

- 6:40 a.m. – Larceny (block of 6080 Swan Lake)
- 7:04 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 6000 Carnegie)
- 10:54 a.m. – MDOP (block of 31400 Ecorse)
- 2:08 p.m. – Juvenile Complaint/Runaway (block of 37300 Wick)
- 2:44 p.m. – Fraud Complaint (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 4:07 p.m. – Harassment Complaint (block of 5920 Panam)
- 4:18 p.m. – UDAA (block of 9650 Wayne)
- 7:27 p.m. – MDOP (block of 34900 Michelle)
- 8:10 p.m. – Fight (block of 5800 Wayne)
- 11:49 p.m. – MDOP (block of 5900 Frederic)

Friday, March 25

- 12:39 a.m. – Threats (block of 5920 Panam)
- 11:07 a.m. – MDOP (block of 15900 Orchard)
- 1:25 p.m. – Dumping/Littering (block of 35900 Joan)
- 1:40 p.m. – Off-road Vehicle (ORV) Complaints (block of 15500 Harriet)
- 2:36 p.m. – Family Trouble (block of 38800 Rodeo)
- 7:24 p.m. – Family Trouble (reported at RPD headquarters)

- 8:06 p.m. – Felonious Assault (block of 6350 Middlebelt)
- 11:39 p.m. – Disturbance (block of 35300 Beverly)

Saturday, March 26

- 3:42 a.m. – Family Trouble (block of 38900 Nottingham Dr.)
- 4:22 a.m. – UDAA (block of 10100 Diane)
- 8:17 a.m. – MDOP (block of 30600 Flynn Dr.)
- 8:49 a.m. – Assault & Battery (A&B) (block of 6000 Carnegie)
- 9:01 a.m. – MDOP (block of 6180 Hyde Park)
- 10:12 a.m. – UDAA (block of 10000 Diane)
- 1:43 p.m. – Larceny (block of 6600 Laramie)
- 1:48 p.m. – Disturbance (block of 35100 Lynn)
- 6:15 p.m. – ORV Complaints (block of 37800 Wabash)
- 6:38 p.m. – MDOP (block of 35400 Hawthorne)
- 11:49 p.m. – Felonious Assault (block of 35700 Garner)
- 11:57 p.m. – Trespassing (block of 14100 Huron River Dr.)

Sunday, March 27

- 12:24 a.m. – Loud Music (block of 38200 McDonald Dr.)
- 1:47 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 8230 Merriman)
- 4:02 p.m. – Larceny (block of 32000 Newcastle)
- 9:37 a.m. – Missing Person (block of 27600 Northline)
- 11:41 a.m. – Drug-related Activity or Investigation (Violation of Public Health Code, or VPHC) (block of 9000 Wickham)
- 1:25 p.m. – Family Trouble (block of 28000 Leroy)
- 3:09 p.m. – Kidnapping (block of 30000 Ecorse)
- 3:49 p.m. – Loud Music (block of 30500 Redwood)

Monday, March 28

- 7:05 a.m. – Family Trouble (block of 6950 Niagara)
- 7:40 a.m. – Miscellaneous Duties (block of 12600 Wayne)
- 8:02 a.m. – UDAA (block of 16000 Huron River Dr.)
- 8:25 a.m. – Larceny (block of 28700 Burning Tree Pl.)
- 10:19 a.m. – MDOP (block of 33300 Sandpiper Dr.)
- 10:34 a.m. – Fraud Complaint (block of 8600 Wickham)
- 1:49 p.m. – Breaking & Entering (B&E) (block of 13200 Homefield)

- 1:52 p.m. – Larceny (block of 28000 Wick)
- 2:02 p.m. – MDOP (block of 5840 Metro)
- 5:37 p.m. – MDOP (block of 9460 Karen)
- 10:16 p.m. – Harassment Complaint (block of 5890 Panam)

Tuesday, March 29

- 12:11 a.m. – Felonious Assault (block of 6000 W. Maple)
- 1:01 a.m. – ORV Complaints (block of 29400 Beverly)
- 1:49 a.m. – VPHC (Van Born)
- 7:02 a.m. – Larceny (block of 29000 Airport Dr.)
- 11:49 a.m. – Trespassing (block of 16200 Eastwind)
- 11:57 a.m. – Rescue (block of 15000 Mountain Way)
- 3:22 p.m. – ORV Complaints (block of 34700 Malcolm)
- 4:01 p.m. – Fight (block of 15100 Mesa Way)
- 4:41 p.m. – Abandoned Vehicle (block of 29900 Pennsylvania)
- 5:43 p.m. – Fraud Complaint (block of 31400 Ecorse)
- 7:08 p.m. – Robbery Alarm (block of 36300 Eureka)

Wednesday, March 30

- 6:19 a.m. – Rescue (block of 31400 Ecorse)
- 1:30 p.m. – Robbery Alarm (block of 27500 Northline)
- 10:09 p.m. – Disturbance (block of 27500 Northline)
- 10:42 p.m. – Disturbance (block of 9770 Wayne)
- 11:45 p.m. – Disturbance (block of 9190 Wickham)

Thursday, March 31

- 12:11 a.m. – Loud Music (block of 6970 Niagara)
- 12:24 a.m. – Mutual Aid Response (block of 7100 Wayne)
- 1:03 a.m. – Harassment Complaint (block of 6540 Gloria)
- 1:48 a.m. – Loud Music (block of 6970 Niagara)

- 3:10 a.m. – Loud Music (block of 5900 E. Maple)
- 8:12 a.m. – UDAA (block of 9340 Tobine)
- 8:31 a.m. – A&B (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 11:34 a.m. – Threats (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 5:15 p.m. – Family Trouble (block of 5940 Georgia)
- 6:25 p.m. – Robbery Alarm (block of 37300 Eureka)
- 7:42 a.m. – Juvenile Complaint/Runaway (block of 15300 Colbert)
- 9:46 p.m. – Juvenile Complaint/Runaway (block of 37500 Walnut)

Friday, April 1

- 2:27 a.m. – OUIL (block of 7100 Merriman)
- 4:42 p.m. – VPHC (block of 31400 Ecorse)
- 10:15 p.m. – Loud Music (block of 35600 Wick)
- 10:26 p.m. – Threats (block of 29000 River Oak)
- 11:11 p.m. – Threats (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 11:11 p.m. – Missing Person (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 11:20 p.m. – Fight (block of 9950 Wayne)

Saturday, April 2

- 2:12 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 27400 Goddard)

Sunday, April 3

- 12:02 a.m. – OUIL (block of 31400 Van Born)
- 12:42 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 6940 Wayne)
- 12:58 a.m. – VPHC (block of 29000 River Oak)
- 7:45 p.m. – Recovered UDAA (block of 7300 Dodge)
- 8:45 p.m. – Neighbor Trouble (block of 6740 Merriman)
- 10:43 p.m. – Juvenile Complaint/Runaway (block of 28400 Halecreek)
- 10:59 p.m. – OUIL (block of 15000 northbound I-275)

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(corner of Hannan Road)
Romulus

Thursday–Saturday, April 7–9
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

City Celebrates



Mayor Alan R. Lambert (bearing the cross) joined City colleagues and local residents for the Romulus Ministerial Association's annual Good Friday March and Community Prayer Service, held on March 25.



The annual Easter Egg Hunt – hosted by the City of Romulus Department of Parks and Recreation on Saturday, March 26 – featured pictures with the Easter Bunny and prizes donated by Nappco, Inc. of Romulus.



Pro wrestlers Big Dave Martin (left) and Rhyno (right) were on hand to help Mayor Lambert greet the many children who took part in the Easter Egg Hunt.

REA "Hops into Giving" for Easter Holiday Season

The Romulus Education Association – a union organization of teachers, social workers, speech pathologists, nurses, and psychologists employed by the Romulus Community Schools – took advantage of the Easter holiday to complete a spring community-service project for the homebound of Romulus.

Throughout the months of February and March, REA members collected a variety of foods, household items, toiletries, and leisure items, and assembled them in attractive holiday baskets. Items collected included crossword puzzles, batteries, towels, and cleaning supplies like dish soap and laundry detergent, as well as bathroom tissue and personal items such as shampoo, soap, deodorant, shaving cream, lotion, and cotton swabs.

The basket recipients – senior citizens who are confined to their homes, unable to get out on a daily basis – were selected based on recommendations from local Meals on Wheels staff members, who assisted the REA with the

distribution of their generous gifts. Altogether, 21 Easter baskets were delivered to local shut-ins.

"This project – called 'REA Hops into Giving' – was developed and implemented by Cindy Bondy, public relations chairperson for the Romulus Education Association, and Shirley Soltesz, a member of the REA Board of Directors," said REA president Jason Salhaney, a fifth-grade teacher at Halecreek Elementary School. "Their hard work and encouragement of our membership made this event a big success.

"The REA is committed to the betterment of the entire Romulus community, and continues to dedicate itself to providing a world-class education for a world-class city," he added.

Salhaney thanked everyone who took part in the community-service project, and expressed special gratitude for the invaluable help of Linda Norman, senior programs coordinator for the City of Romulus, and her friendly, dedicated staff at the Romulus Senior Center. □



RMS speech pathologist Cindy Bondy (left) and Halecreek social worker Pat Flodin put the finishing touches on 21 Easter baskets that the REA donated for homebound senior citizens.

Barth Students Make Special Presentation to School Board



Lori Russell (back), a first-grade teacher at Barth Elementary, proudly showed off her students at a recent "Core Democratic Values" presentation before the Romulus Community Schools Board of Education. The young presenters were: (from left) front – Jackson Aroid, Emilee Keys, Megan Hines, Alexis Celeshine, and Austin Walker; back – Shannel DeFoe, Bryan Poet, Nicholas Helton, Tazhané Willis, Jamie Laura, and Jacob Jones.

Students from Barth Elementary School recently demonstrated their understanding of "core democratic values" by making a number of entertaining and informative presentations before the Romulus Community Schools Board of Education. The presentations included recitations, songs, and a video program.

First-grade teacher Lori Russell had her students sing a song about liberty and recite passages from *The Liberty Book*. Fifth-grade teacher Gerilyn Kline – newly selected "Teacher of the Year" by the Wayne County Regional Educational Services Agency – got her students to explain what core democratic values are, and present a video demonstration about each one.

Principal Diane Golka said she was very proud of her students' presentations, noting that their outstanding work is just one of the many reasons that her

school was recently awarded the coveted State of Michigan Blue Ribbon. In honor of the school board's dedication to excellence in education at Barth and throughout the district, Golka presented each member with a handsome Blue Ribbon pin and read a commemorative poem written by secretary Barb Fortune.

Golka also invited everyone to attend the official presentation of Barth's Michigan Blue Ribbon award on Wednesday, May 18. Among those who will take part in the program will be members of the Michigan Department of Education, who will officiate at the ceremony.

The "Core Democratic Values" presentation was attended by a large group of Barth parents. Board president Cheryl Buckley thanked the parents for their support, and recognized the students and their parents for their wonderful accomplishments. □

Household Hazardous Waste Day

The Romulus Civic Center parking lot – located on the east side of Wayne Road south of Goddard – will be the site of a free Household Hazardous Waste Day collection from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 16. Wayne County residents can dispose of the following household items:

- paints, stains, and dyes;
- floor wax, floor-care products, and carpet cleaner;
- furniture polish, bathroom cleaners, and stain removers;
- medicines, nail polish, and glue;
- antifreeze, motor oil, and gas;
- automotive and dry cell batteries;
- computer monitors, printers, scanners, keyboards, and mice;

- cell phones, fax machines, VCRs, cable boxes, and televisions.

Participants will be able to exchange old thermometers containing mercury for one safe, digital thermometer (limit one per car).

Items that cannot be accepted include commercial/industrial waste, smoke detectors, radioactive material, explosives, ammunition, asbestos, unknown/unlabeled waste, shock-sensitive materials, fire extinguishers, and gas cylinders with valves.

Only residents of Wayne County (proper ID required) may participate.

For more information call the Wayne County Department of Environment at 734-326-3936. □



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Wick Sixth-graders Present "African-American Music"



Wick Elementary sixth-graders who performed in their school's program about the African-American influence on American music included: (from left) front – Jeffrey Robertson, Jaiana Powers, Jazmine Williams, Gary Pollard, Demetrius Anderson, and Shauntallé Gibbons; back – Alexander Carter, Brandon Brown, Chelsea Roper, Brianna Boyd, Jazamaine Meeks, and Jamal Kent.

Sixth-grade students from the classrooms of Wick Elementary teachers Tavia Redmond and Jennifer Richard recently presented an outstanding historical revue about the African-American influence on American music. Their performances before a large crowd of parents and fellow students were followed by a sumptuous soul-food luncheon in the school cafeteria.

The music program featured spirituals, gospel, blues, jazz, R&B, rock, reggae, rap, and hip-hop, as the performers went through a chronological presentation of African-American musical influence. Among the featured selections were group dance performances that included a "Motown Tribute" as well as "Hip-Hop Models" and "Hip-Hop

Dancers" themes.

The student performers received a standing ovation from the appreciative audience, as well as accolades from teacher Redmond and principal Debbie Juriga.

"I just could not believe how quickly the students took to this program, and how much they enjoyed it," Redmond said.

Principal Juriga noted, "I could tell that the parents, and particularly the grandparents, were really 'into it' on many of the selections, clapping along with the students as they performed. This program was really fun for the kids and their family supporters, and a great way to celebrate our cultural diversity at Wick Elementary School." □



Wick sixth-grade teacher Tavia Redmond (third from left) led students in "Lift Every Voice and Sing" to start the program. Also pictured are (from left) Chelsea Roper, Natalia Brown, Brianna Boyd, Diamond Chandler, and Bre'ana West.



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Winter Festival at Romulus Middle School Was Fun for All



Romulus Middle School students Rakia Womble (left) and Moriah Chapman proudly posed in front of their "sports" hallway decoration for the RMS Winter Festival.

Students at Romulus Middle School recently celebrated the end of winter with a special festival. The program included unique sporting events and competitions as well as a hall-decorating contest.

The theme for the hall decorations was sports, so each of the four decorating teams adorned their hallways with memorabilia about a decade of sports highlights. Additional events had teams compete in flag decorating, charity contributions, and a "school colors" day to earn points. Intellectual challenges for teams including the puzzle-building event, where three students worked for ten minutes to see who could get the

farthest in completing a puzzle, and a math scavenger hunt that required four students to solve worksheet problems using information found throughout the building.

The week-long schedule of special events – which also included a climactic final assembly featuring a tug-of-war, a pie-eating contest, "noodle jousting," a "garbage-bag dash," and a "human bowling" contest – was organized by the school's student activity director, Kellee Kubany.

Principal Mel Kimbrough said he was pleased with the enthusiasm and good sportsmanship that his students demonstrated throughout the festival. □

New APA Officers Sworn In by Romak



Romulus City Councilwoman Debbie Romak (far left) was proud to administer oaths to the following newly elected American Progressive Association officers: (from left) front – Elsie Trivedi, treasurer; Della Hendricks, secretary; and Willie Watson, president; back – Bronson Bell, trustee; Earl Alexander, trustee; and Lloyd Coleman, vice-president.

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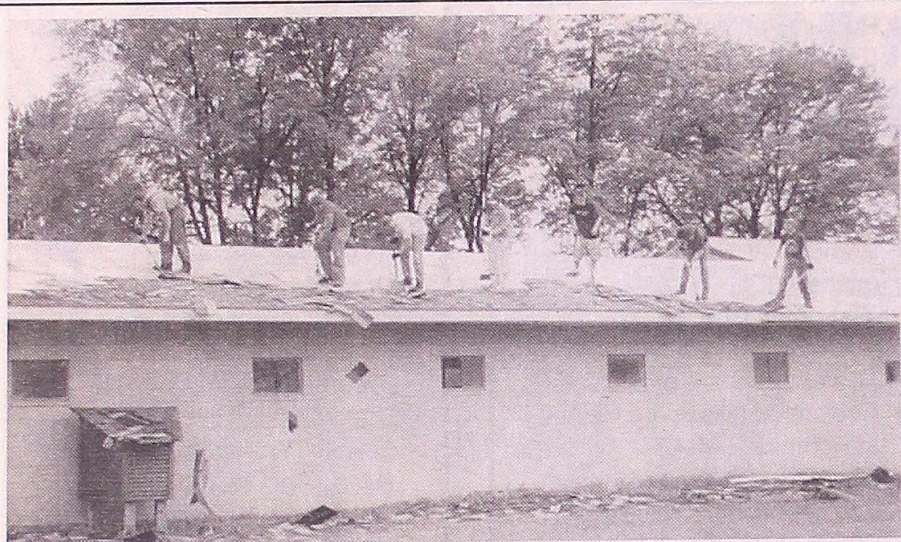
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Troop #872 Honors Eagle Scouts Norman and Witherow



Ryan Witherow organized the re-roofing of two buildings on the Saint Aloysius Catholic Church festival grounds in Romulus to meet his Eagle Scout service project requirements.

On November 14, 2004, Saint Aloysius Boy Scouts Troop 872 (Romulus) honored two of its members for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. The Eagle Scout Court of Honor, held at the Belleville Moose, recognized Anthony Norman of Taylor and Ryan Witherow of Romulus for their contributions to Scouting and the community.

A number of Scouting dignitaries joined the honorees' families, friends, and fellow troop members for the special event, which featured a dinner, a recognition ceremony, and remarks by local scoutmaster Thomas Witherow.

In order for a Boy Scout to earn the rank of Eagle—Scouting's highest honor—he must progress through the organization's ranks and earn a specific number of merit badges. Each scout must also select a service project that will benefit his community. The scout must then organize the other boys in his troop to help him complete his chosen project.

For his Eagle service project, Anthony Norman restored the Sumpter Township Police Department gun range. He coordinated the procurement of materials for the project and, with the support of his troop, made target frames

and yard markers, cleared weeds, and removed brush from the berms. The boys also painted and re-roofed the pavilion and storage shed located on the site.

The restoration benefited not only the Sumpter Police Department, but law-enforcement agencies from surrounding areas, as well.

For his Eagle service project, Ryan Witherow solicited the help of his fellow scouts to re-roof two buildings on the festival grounds of Saint Aloysius Catholic Church in Romulus. The "Hamburger Villa" and the storage building used for "White Elephant" sales were in need of major repair.

Both buildings received a complete tear-off of the old roofing materials, followed by a great deal of work on the soffits and fascias (including installation of new aluminum trim), as well as replacement of some of the plywood on the roof. The repairs to the two buildings turned out really well, saving the parish a considerable amount of money.

Scouts Norman and Witherow would like to thank everyone who donated their time and/or materials to make their Eagle service-project possible. □



For his Eagle Scout service project, Anthony Norman organized the restoration of the Sumpter Township Police Department gun range and pavilion.



Eagle Scout Anthony Norman III (second from left) was congratulated by (back, from left) his parents, Anita and Anthony Norman II; his grandfather, Anthony Norman I; and (front) his brother, Alex Norman.



Thomas and Denise Witherow (left and right, respectively) expressed pride in the accomplishments of their son, Ryan Witherow.

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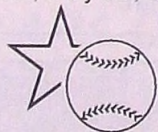
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RHS Baseball**Mega Gold Division – Varsity**

- Annapolis (Dearborn Heights) at Romulus (Mon., Apr. 11, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Dearborn (Fri., Apr. 15, 4 p.m.)
- Robichaud (Dearborn Heights) at Romulus – Mega (Wed., Apr. 20, 4 p.m.)
- Fordson (Dearborn) at Romulus – Mega (Mon., Apr. 25, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Ecorse – Mega (Wed., Apr. 27, TBA)
- Inkster at Romulus – Mega (Fri., Apr. 29, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Wyandotte (DH) (Sat., Apr. 30, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Highland Park – Mega (Mon., May 2, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at River Rouge – Mega (Wed., May 4, TBA)
- Romulus at Melvindale (DH) (Sat., May 7, 11 a.m.)
- Romulus at Robichaud (Dearborn Heights) – Mega (Wed., May 11, TBA)
- Romulus at Fordson (Dearborn) – Mega (Fri., May 13, 4 p.m.)
- Ecorse at Romulus – Mega (Mon., May 16, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Inkster – Mega (Wed., May 18, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Truman (Taylor) (Thurs., May 19, 4 p.m.)
- Highland Park at Romulus – Mega (Mon., May 23, 4 p.m.)
- River Rouge at Romulus – Mega (Wed., May 25, 4 p.m.)
- Grosse Ile at Romulus (Thurs., May 26, 6 p.m.)



Schedule subject to change

RHS Baseball**Mega Gold Division – JV**

- Garden City at Romulus (Wed., Apr. 6, 4 p.m.; results unknown at press time)
- Romulus at Annapolis (Dearborn Heights) (Mon., Apr. 11, 4 p.m.)
- Dearborn at Romulus (Fri., Apr. 15, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Kennedy (Taylor) (Fri., Apr. 22, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Fordson (Dearborn) (Mon., Apr. 25, 4 p.m.)
- Ecorse at Romulus (Wed., Apr. 27, 4 p.m.)
- Melvindale at Romulus (DH) (Sat., May 7, 11 a.m.)
- Fordson (Dearborn) at Romulus (Wed., May 11, 4 p.m.)
- Fordson (Dearborn) at Romulus (Fri., May 13, 4 p.m.)
- Dearborn at Romulus (Sat., May 14, 11 a.m.)
- Ecorse at Romulus (Mon., May 16, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Fordson (Dearborn) (Tues., May 17, 4 p.m.)
- Truman (Taylor) at Romulus (Thurs., May 19, 4 p.m.)
- Fordson (Dearborn) at Romulus (Sat., May 21, 4 p.m.)

Schedule subject to change

RMS Baseball**Mega White Division**

- Romulus at Best (Dearborn Heights) (Tues., Apr. 19, 3:45 p.m.)
- Willow Run (Ypsilanti) at Romulus (Thurs., Apr. 21, 3:45 p.m.)
- Romulus at Highland Park (Tues., Apr. 26, 4 p.m.)
- Ecorse at Romulus (Thurs., Apr. 28, 3:45 p.m.)
- Melvindale at Romulus (Tues., May 3, 3:45 p.m.)
- Inkster at Romulus (Thurs., May 5, 3:45 p.m.)
- Romulus at Robichaud (Dearborn Heights) (Tues., May 10, 3:45 p.m.)
- River Rouge at Romulus (Thurs., May 12, 3:45 p.m.)
- Best (Dearborn Heights) at Romulus (Thurs., May 19, 3:45 p.m.)
- Romulus at Willow Run (Ypsilanti) (Tues., May 24, 3:45 p.m.)

Schedule subject to change

RHS Softball**Mega Gold Division – Varsity**

- Romulus at Melvindale (Fri., Apr. 8, 4 p.m.)
- Annapolis (Dearborn Heights) at Romulus (Mon., Apr. 11, 4 p.m.)
- Truman (Taylor) at Romulus (Wed., Apr. 13, 7 p.m.)
- Romulus at Taylor Invitational (place TBD) (Sat., Apr. 16, TBA)
- Romulus at Lincoln (Ypsilanti) (Mon., Apr. 18, 4 p.m.)
- Robichaud (Dearborn Heights) at Romulus – Mega (Wed., Apr. 20, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Willow Run (Ypsilanti) (DH) (Sat., Apr. 23, 12 p.m.)
- Fordson (Dearborn) at Romulus – Mega (Mon., Apr. 25, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Ecorse – Mega (Wed., Apr. 27, TBA)
- Inkster at Romulus – Mega (Fri., Apr. 29, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Highland Park – Mega (Mon., May 2, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at River Rouge – Mega (Wed., May 4, TBA)
- Romulus at Robichaud (Dearborn Heights) – Mega (Wed., May 11, TBA)
- Romulus at Fordson (Dearborn) – Mega (Fri., May 13, 4 p.m.)
- Willow Run (Ypsilanti) at Romulus (DH) (Sat., May 14, 12 p.m.)
- Ecorse at Romulus – Mega (Mon., May 16, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Inkster – Mega (Wed., May 18, 4 p.m.)
- Highland Park at Romulus – Mega (Mon., May 23, 4 p.m.)
- River Rouge at Romulus – Mega (Wed., May 25, 4 p.m.)



Schedule subject to change

RHS Softball**Mega Gold Division – JV**

- Romulus at Dearborn (Tues., Apr. 5, 4 p.m.; results unknown at press time)
- Garden City at Romulus (Wed., Apr. 6, 4 p.m.; results unknown at press time)
- Romulus at Truman (Taylor) (Wed., Apr. 13, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Grosse Ile (Thurs., Apr. 14, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Annapolis (Dearborn Heights) (DH) (Sat., Apr. 16, 12 p.m.)
- Lincoln (Ypsilanti) at Romulus (Mon., Apr. 18, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Kennedy (Taylor) (Fri., Apr. 22, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Fordson (Dearborn) (Mon., Apr. 25, 4 p.m.)
- Ecorse at Romulus (Wed., Apr. 27, 4 p.m.)
- Dearborn at Romulus (Fri., May 6, 4 p.m.)
- Melvindale at Romulus (DH) (Sat., May 7, 11 a.m.)
- Fordson (Dearborn) at Romulus (Fri., May 13, 4 p.m.)
- Ecorse at Romulus (Mon., May 16, 4 p.m.)



Schedule subject to change

RMS Softball**Mega White Division**

- Romulus at Best (Dearborn Heights) (Tues., Apr. 19, 3:45 p.m.)
- Willow Run (Ypsilanti) at Romulus (Thurs., Apr. 21, 3:45 p.m.)
- Romulus at Highland Park (Tues., Apr. 26, 4 p.m.)
- Ecorse at Romulus (Thurs., Apr. 28, 3:45 p.m.)
- Melvindale at Romulus (Tues., May 3, 3:45 p.m.)
- Inkster at Romulus (Thurs., May 5, 3:45 p.m.)
- Romulus at Robichaud (Dearborn Heights) (Tues., May 10, 3:45 p.m.)
- River Rouge at Romulus (Thurs., May 12, 3:45 p.m.)
- Best (Dearborn Heights) at Romulus (Thurs., May 19, 3:45 p.m.)
- Romulus at Willow Run (Ypsilanti) (Tues., May 24, 3:45 p.m.)

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Multicultural Night



(From left) At Merriman Elementary's recent Multicultural Night, Michelle Dillon (back) and her daughters, Aubrey, Alonka, and Sarena, took in the "Italy" exhibit along with their friends, Raven Rogers and Nashelle Hill.



(From left) Joshlyn Booth and Tim Booth, Jr. attended Merriman's Multicultural Night with their dad, Tim Booth, Sr. The trio enjoyed the program's many colorful and educational displays.



Lisa Clark showed the "Mexico" exhibit to her children, Annalise and Connor.



Deanna Genigeski and her children – (front, from left) Ryan, Alicia, and Jordan – enjoyed the display about China.

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RHS Boys' Track**Mega White Division**

- Romulus at Allen Park – Mega (Thurs., Apr. 7, 3:30 p.m.; results unknown at press time)
- Romulus at Lincoln (Ypsilanti) (Tues., Apr. 12, 4:30 p.m.)
- Wyandotte at Romulus – Mega (Tues., Apr. 14, 3:30 p.m.)
- Romulus at April Showers Relays (Ypsilanti) (Sat., Apr. 16, 10 a.m.)
- Belleville at Romulus (Tues., Apr. 19, 3:30 p.m.)
- Garden City at Romulus – Mega (Thurs., Apr. 21, 3:30 p.m.)
- Romulus at Don Lukens/Lady Knights Invitational (Norrix High School, Kalamazoo) (Fri., Apr. 29, 3:30 p.m.)
- Wayne at Romulus (Tues., May 3, 3:30 p.m.)
- Romulus at Redford Union – Mega (Thurs., May 5, 3:30 p.m.)
- Romulus at Tory Clark Memorial Invitational (Adrian) (Sat., May 7, TBA)
- Romulus at Truman (Taylor) – Mega (Thurs., May 12, 3:30 p.m.)
- Romulus at *News-Herald* Invitational (Grosse Ile) (Sat., May 14, 9 a.m.)
- Trenton at Romulus – Mega (Tues., May 17, 3:30 p.m.)

*Schedule subject to change***RHS Girls' Track****Mega Blue Division**

- Romulus at Annapolis (Dearborn Heights) – Mega (Thurs., Apr. 7, 3:30 p.m.; results unknown at press time)
- Romulus at Lincoln (Ypsilanti) (Tues., Apr. 12, 4:30 p.m.)
- Truman (Taylor) at Romulus – Mega (Thurs., Apr. 14, 3:30 p.m.)
- Romulus at April Showers Relays (Ypsilanti) (Sat., Apr. 16, 10 a.m.)
- Belleville at Romulus (Tues., Apr. 19, 3:30 p.m.)
- Romulus at Carlson (Gibraltar) – Mega (Thurs., Apr. 21, TBA)
- Crestwood (Dearborn Heights) at Romulus – Mega (Thurs., Apr. 28, 3:30 p.m.)
- Romulus at Don Lukens/Lady Knights Invitational (Norrix High School, Kalamazoo) (Fri., Apr. 29, 3:30 p.m.)
- Wayne at Romulus (Tues., May 3, 3:30 p.m.)
- Romulus at Thurston (Redford) – Mega (Thurs., May 5, 3:30 p.m.)
- Romulus at Tory Clark Memorial Invitational (Adrian) (Sat., May 7, TBA)
- Fordson (Dearborn) at Romulus – Mega (Thurs., May 12, TBA)
- Romulus at *News-Herald* Invitational (Grosse Ile) (Sat., May 14, 9 a.m.)

*Schedule subject to change***RMS Boys' & Girls' Track****Mega Red Division**

- Romulus at Allen Park (Allen Park High School) (Wed., Apr. 27, 3:45 p.m.)
- Romulus at Wyandotte (Wyandotte High School) (Mon., May 2, 3:45 p.m.)
- Belleville South at Romulus (Wed., May 24, 3:45 p.m.)
- Romulus at Monroe (Monroe High School) (Mon., May 9, 3:45 p.m.)
- Romulus at Pierce (Thurston High School, Redford) (Wed., May 11, 3:45 p.m.)
- Ypsilanti East at Romulus (Mon., May 16, 3:45 p.m.)
- Romulus at Belleville North (Wed., May 18, 3:45 p.m.)

*Schedule subject to change***RHS Lacrosse****South Division, Group B**

- Lincoln (Ypsilanti) at Romulus – scrimmage (Tues., Mar. 22, 6 p.m.; lost 16–4)
- Ypsilanti at Romulus – scrimmage (Thurs., Mar. 24, 5 p.m.; won 7–6)
- Ypsilanti at Romulus (Tues., Apr. 5, 5 p.m.; results unknown at press time)
- Romulus at Tecumseh – SDB (Thurs., Apr. 7, TBA; results unknown at press time)
- Romulus at Lincoln (Ypsilanti) (Tues., Apr. 12, 6 p.m.)
- South Lyon at Romulus – SDB (Thurs., Apr. 14, TBA)
- Grand Blanc at Romulus (Tues., Apr. 19, 6 p.m.)
- Romulus at L'Anse Creuse North (Macomb) (Thurs., Apr. 21, 7 p.m.)
- Hartland at Romulus – SDB (Tues., Apr. 26, 6:30 p.m.)
- Romulus at Liggett (Grosse Pointe) (Thurs., Apr. 28, TBA)
- Romulus at Ypsilanti (Tues., May 3, TBA)
- Romulus at Saline – SDB (Thurs., May 5, TBA)
- Romulus at Waterford (Sat., May 7, 11 a.m.)
- Northville at Romulus (Tues., May 10, 6 p.m.)
- Gabriel Richard (Ann Arbor) at Romulus – SDB (Thurs., May 12, 7 p.m.)
- Grosse Ile at Romulus – scrimmage (Fri., May 13, 6 p.m.)
- L'Anse Creuse North (Macomb) at Romulus (JV) (Tues., May 17, 7 p.m.)
- Lincoln (Ypsilanti) at Romulus – SDB (Thurs., May 19, 6 p.m.)
- Canton at Romulus (Sat., May 21, 12 p.m.)
- Romulus at Walled Lake (Tues., May 24, 6 p.m.)
- Romulus at Tecumseh (Thurs., May 26, 6 p.m.)

*Schedule subject to change***RHS Girls' Soccer****Mega Blue Division**

- Airport (Carleton) at Romulus (Wed., Apr. 13, 4:30 p.m.)
- Western (Detroit) at Romulus (Fri., Apr. 15, 4:30 p.m.)
- Truman (Taylor) at Romulus – Mega (Mon., Apr. 18, 4 p.m.)
- Fordson (Dearborn) at Romulus – Mega (Wed., Apr. 20, 4 p.m.)
- Calvary Christian (Ypsilanti) at Romulus (Fri., Apr. 22, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Lincoln Park – Mega (Mon., Apr. 25, 7 p.m.)
- Kennedy (Taylor) at Romulus – Mega (Wed., Apr. 27, 4 p.m.)
- Melvindale at Romulus – Mega (Fri., May 6, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Truman (Taylor) – Mega (Mon., May 9, 7 p.m.)
- Romulus at Fordson (Dearborn) – Mega (Wed., May 11, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Wayne (Fri., May 13, 5:30 p.m.)
- Lincoln Park at Romulus – Mega (Mon., May 16, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Kennedy (Taylor) – Mega (Wed., May 18, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Airport (Carleton) (Fri., May 20, 4:30 p.m.)
- Romulus at Melvindale – Mega (Wed., May 25, 4 p.m.)

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Baby's Name _____

Birthdate _____ Time _____

Weight _____ Length _____

Birthplace _____

Parents _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Siblings _____

Maternal Grandparents _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Paternal Grandparents _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Name and phone number of person to contact (in case of questions): _____

Attach any additional information concerning the birth to this form.

Community Calendar

- **Travel Baseball Team Organizing** – A travel baseball team for youths age 13 and under is now organizing in the Romulus area. Anyone interested in registering should call Bob (734-942-9261), or Larry (734-722-1857) for more information.
- **Indoor Flea Market at Progressive Hall** – The Romulus Progressive Club is inviting the public to attend its upcoming Indoor Flea Market, to be held at Progressive Hall (11580 Ozga) on Saturday, April 9, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tables space (8'x8' – \$20) is still available. For more information, call Jim VanMeer (248-640-4567 or 734-941-3044).
- **National Library Week** – The Romulus Public Library (11121 South Wayne Road, near City Hall) will host the following kids' programs during National Library Week (April 10–16): **Story with Ronald McDonald** (Tuesday, April 12), **"Rainbow Feathers" bird program** (Wednesday, April 13), and **Mike Boyton's Puppet Show** (Thursday, April 14). All programs begin at 4:30 p.m., and all are free of charge.
- **American Progressive Association Seeks New Members** – The American Progressive Association – one of the oldest nonprofit/community organizations in Romulus – meets at 6 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month at the Thomas J. Coleman Community Center (35351 Beverly Road). Annual membership dues are \$25 per year. New faces are welcome.
- **Rummage Sale** – St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church (corner of Craig and Ellis streets in New Boston) will host a Spring Rummage Sale on Friday, April 15, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturday, April 16, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. (bag day). Proceeds will go to church-related charities.
- **Household Hazardous Waste Day** – Wayne County's next Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day will be held in the parking lot at Romulus City Hall (11111 South Wayne Road) from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 16. Residents will be able to dispose of items such as household cleaners, paints and stains, antifreeze, garden chemicals, and household electronics. Participants will also be able to exchange their old mercury thermometer(s) for a safe, mercury-free digital thermometer (one per car). For more information about materials that may or may not be suitable for Waste Day disposal, call WC Resource Recovery at 734-326-3936.
- **Spring Craft Show** – The Romulus Progressive Club will host its Spring Craft Show at Progressive Hall (11580 Ozga) on Saturday, April 23, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Featured items will include baskets, wreaths, jewelry, hand-painted clothing, candles, and more. Space is still available for crafters/vendors who would like to participate. For more information, call the hall (734-941-3044), Jim Poet (718-3137) or Diane Poet (942-7195).
- **CUMC Hosts Mother's Day Service/Dinner** – Community United Methodist Church – located at 11160 Olive (corner of Bibbins) in Romulus – will host a special service/dinner in honor of Mother's Day. Eleven o'clock worship will be followed by a hearty meal (12:30 p.m.) of fried chicken, baked potato, seven-layer salad, baby carrots, apple pie, ice-cream, and beverage (coffee, tea, soft drink, or water). Donation is \$8 for adults and \$5 for children over five years of age; kids four and under eat free. (Guests are invited to come for both events, or just dinner.) Tickets will be available in the church office after every worship service in April, as well as at the door. For more information, call Kathy at 734-941-0736.
- **Memorial Balloon Launch** – Crane Funeral Home's second annual Balloon Launch – a ceremony in memory of loved ones who have passed away – will be held at the Funeral Home (36885 Goddard) on Sunday, May 15. For details, call 734-941-9200.
- **Kindergarten Enrollment Now Open** – Romulus Community Schools continues to accept enrollment for its all-day/every-day and half-day/every-day kindergarten programs for the 2005–2006 school year. Children who will be five years old as of December 1, 2005, are eligible. For more information, contact your neighborhood school.
- **Applications Now Accepted** – Metro Academy, a K–8 charter school, is accepting applications for the 2005–2006 school year. An open house is scheduled for Thursday, April 21, at 7 p.m. For more information, please call 734-641-3200, or visit www.metrocharteracademy.org.

To place information in our next issue's Community Calendar, mail it to "the little paper" at P.O. Box 74038, Romulus, MI 48174-0038; FAX it to us at 734-992-2052; or call 734-941-1907

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Sassy Seniors

By Mary E. Clark

Special thanks to Linda Norman, senior citizens program coordinator for the City of Romulus Department of Parks and Recreation, for contributing information to this issue's "Sassy Seniors" column. (For more information about events at Romulus Senior Center, located at 36515 Bibbins, call 734-955-4120.)

Limited Parking at the Center

Due to construction work on the City's new senior center, parking is at a premium right now, according to Linda Norman. The senior programs coordinator urges visitors to call ahead to check on parking availability, or to park at City Hall and call from there to arrange for a pickup.

Free Tax Preparation

The Romulus Senior Center's last day of free tax preparation will be Wednesday, April 13, from 12:30 to 3 p.m. The service is available by appointment only to low-income Romulus seniors (age 60 and older).

A list of materials which must be brought to the appointment will be provided at the time of registration. These materials will include:

- W-2 forms,
- Unemployment compensation statements,
- SSA-1099 interest/dividends statements,
- 1099R pension/annuity statements,
- forms showing income taxes paid,
- last year's tax forms.

For more information, or to make an appointment for tax service, call or stop in at the Center.

Club One Welcomes You!

Club One, a senior citizens' group that meets at the Romulus Senior Center each Tuesday at 11 a.m., will hold meetings on the following dates:

- April 12 (meeting; birthdays; games; bag lunch);
- April 19 (Cracker Barrel and Walmart – depart at 11:30 a.m.); and
- April 26 (meeting; bingo; bag lunch).

As always, new faces are welcome.

Red Hat Society Meets

The Romulus Senior Center is now an official member of Red Hat Society Chapter #40741. Among the group's upcoming outings are the following:

- April 22 (lunch at McNasty's – 12 p.m.),
- May 6 (Southgate Theatre and lunch at Famous Dave's – 11:30 a.m.),
- May 31 (Detroit Zoo – 11:30 a.m.), and
- June 24 (lunch at Clinton Inn – 11:30 a.m.)

For more information, please e-mail romulusredhatsociety@yahoo.com or call the Center.

April Fool's Party

The Senior Center's next monthly luncheon will be held on Friday, April 29, at 12 p.m. In keeping with this (deliberately belated) celebration of April Fool's Day, the menu will be served "backwards," with dessert first, followed by spaghetti, scalloped potatoes, biscuits, and a beverage.

Among the highlights of the get-together will be a silly sing-a-long, a "no talent" contest, and a laughing contest (with prizes!). Those who attend the luncheon are encouraged to wear their clothes backwards, inside out, upside down, and/or in a mismatched manner. Prizes will be awarded for the most original, the funniest, and the most peculiar costumes.

Cost for the luncheon is just \$3.50. Space is limited; sign up soon!

New Time for Commodities Pickup

Just a reminder that the new pickup time for Commodities and Focus: HOPE is 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month.

This program is available to low-income individuals and families of all ages. Call the Center to check on eligibility guidelines.

Regular Programs

Besides the many special activities offered at the Romulus Senior Center, a number of regularly scheduled free or low-cost programs are also open to local senior citizens, including:

- ceramics (Mondays, 12:30 p.m.),
- Club One (Tuesdays, 11 a.m.),
- bunco (Tuesdays, 1 p.m.),
- bingo (Wednesdays, 1 p.m.),
- "fun night" (Wednesdays, 5 p.m.),
- pinochle (Thursdays, 12:30 p.m.),
- "game day" (Thursdays, 1 to 3 p.m.), and
- quilting (Thursdays, 7 p.m.).

Walk for Your Health

Ride the Senior Center's van to Wayne County Community College's Western Campus each Monday and Friday at 12:30 p.m. for an hour of safe indoor walking at your own pace. Sign up at the Center to reserve your seat.

The Center strongly urges anyone considering a change in his/her exercise program to consult a doctor beforehand.

TeleCare Program Available

The Romulus Senior Center's TeleCare program provides seniors with daily phone reassurance at no cost.

To learn more, call the Center's friendly staff. □

Winter Clearance!



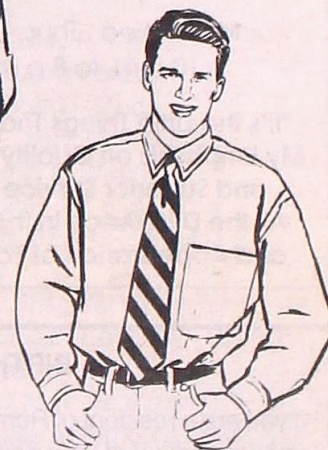
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Obituaries

Thomas M. Klein

Thomas M. Klein of Belleville, Michigan, passed away on Friday, March 25, 2005, at the age of 58.

The native of Trenton, Michigan, was born on Tuesday, May 21, 1946.

Thomas—honorably discharged from the U.S. Air Force with the rank of sergeant—was a past commander of a local Veterans of Foreign Wars post. He enjoyed family vacations, trips with kids, bow and rifle hunting, and fishing.

Surviving Thomas are his mother, Florence K. (Lambert) Klein (Romulus, MI); 4 daughters, Shelly Marie (Ronald) Williams (Belleville), Audrey Lee Selvia (Westland, MI), Maggie Louise (Scott) Gilbert (Wayne, MI), and Tonya Lynn Klein (Belleville); 4 brothers, Anthony D. (Mary) Klein

(Clinton Township, MI), Charles R. (Judy) Klein (Milford, MI), Patrick L. (Patricia) Klein (Fowlerville, MI), and Michael W. (Kim) Klein (Westland); and 8 grandchildren, Eric Williams, Terri Williams, Ronnie Williams, Jr., Sean Syria, Joanna Klein, Thomas Klein, Corey Gilbert, and Joey Barrett, Jr.

Among those who preceded him in passing were his father, Anthony B. Klein, and his wife, Phyllis K. (Selvia) Klein.

A funeral service was held on Monday, March 28, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus), with Father Festus Ejimadu (St. Aloysius Catholic Church, Romulus) officiating. Interment was at Mt. Hope Memorial Gardens (Livonia, MI).

Raymond P. Stewart

Raymond P. Stewart of Romulus, Michigan, passed away on Monday, April 4, 2005, at the age of 68.

The native of Cairo, Georgia, was born on Friday, December 25, 1936.

Raymond—a resident of the Romulus area for 36 years—was a U.S. Navy veteran (Vietnam era) and a Ford Motor Company retiree. He enjoyed watching television, especially game shows.

Surviving Raymond are his wife, Patricia A. (Tush) Stewart; 2 sons, Kenneth P. (Jennifer) Stewart (Taylor, MI) and Randy P. Stewart (Romulus);

2 daughters, Carolyn M. (Kevin) Welch (Romulus) and Laurie A. (Mark) Kropog (Commerce Township, MI); 2 brothers, Ralph (Mollie) Stewart (Danbury, WI) and Billy (Kay) Stewart (Lake Placid, FL); 5 grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

His parents, Allan and Cora Lee (Godwin) Stewart, predeceased him.

A funeral service was held on Wednesday, April 6, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus), with Pastor Robert J. White (Grace Baptist Church, Belleville, MI) officiating. Cremation rites were accorded. □

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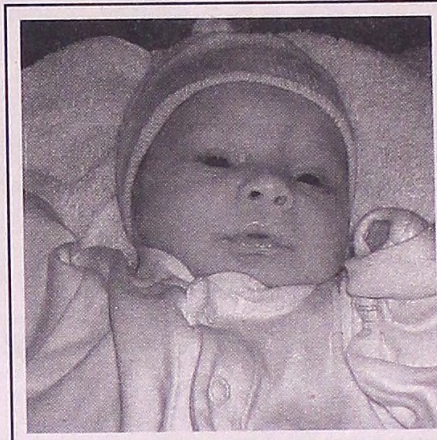
The Stork Arrived

Rebecca Diane Taylor

Tom and Dawn Taylor of Taylor, Michigan, are proud to announce the birth of their first child, Rebecca Diane Taylor.

Rebecca was born in Oakwood Hospital (Dearborn, MI) at 1:10 p.m. on Wednesday, October 27, 2004, weighing 7 lbs., 11 oz., and measuring 22.5 in.

Among those giving the new arrival a warm and loving welcome into the family were her paternal grandmother, Sharon Elliott, and her maternal grandparents, Donald and Margaret Taylor (all of Romulus, MI).



Sébastien and Alexandre Landrum

Proudly announcing the birth of twin sons, Sébastien Michael and Alexandre David, are Robert and Leslie Landrum of Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Sébastien and Alexandre were born in St. Joseph Hospital (Ypsilanti, MI) on Thursday, March 10, 2005. Sébastien (who was born at 10:55 p.m.) weighed in at 5 lbs., 1 oz.; Alexandre (born at

11:07 p.m.) weighed 6 lbs., 2 oz.

Among those who were especially excited about the new arrivals was their big sister, Pierrette.

The twins' paternal grandparents are Patricia Landrum (Northville, MI) and the late Michael Landrum.

David and Judy Rakotz (Saline, MI) are their maternal grandparents. □



Alexandre and Sébastien Landrum



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